

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Review Item:

Reports from the Christian County and Jefferson County School Districts on the status of school support plans (Reports from districts under separate cover)

Applicable Statutes or Regulations:

KRS 160.345, 160.346

History/Background:

Existing Policy. As part of the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001, states must use academic assessments and other indicators to annually review the progress of each district to determine whether the district makes adequate yearly progress. Once a district reaches Tier 3 status, the *state* must implement corrective action. Christian County is a Tier 3 district with a Voluntary Partnership Assistance Team. The district's federal funds have been deferred.

In regard to Jefferson County, the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) voted to transfer school council authority of Iroquois Middle School and Southern Leadership Academy to the superintendent after scholastic audits were conducted.

Jefferson County and Christian County drafted school improvement plans to guide district and school improvements in these low-performing schools, and each superintendent has conveyed these improvement plans to the KBE for review.

The Board has requested that the superintendents from both districts continue to provide timely updates to discuss progress and impact on student achievement. Staff from both districts are scheduled to appear at the April meeting. Letters were sent to each district asking for specific data to be provided to the Board prior to the meeting and this additional data will come under separate cover from the Agenda Book. (Letters are attached.)

Impact on Getting to Proficiency:

The local district superintendents and boards of education of Jefferson County and Christian County have the authority and responsibility to ensure their improvement plans include actions to assist and strengthen low-performing schools and that those actions are fully implemented, monitored, and adjusted to meet the needs of all students. This is essential in assuring that all students in the districts reach proficiency. The district superintendent of Jefferson County now has the authority to implement local school

governance in Southern Leadership Academy and Iroquois Middle School in Jefferson County. The full implementation of their plans should assist and strengthen these low-performing schools.

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Date:

April 2008